

REMARKS

Claims 1-2 and 4-8 are rejected.

Claims 1 and 4-8 are amended.

Claim 3 is cancelled.

The pending claims are amended for clarity.

No new matter was entered in view of these amendments.

I. 35 U.S.C. 102(b) Rejection of Claims 1, 5, 6, and 8

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 5, 6, and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable in view of Cloutier et al. (U.S. Patent 5, 966,387 hereafter known as 'Cloutier'). Applicants disagree with the Examiner for the following reasons:

Amended claim 1 recites a device for temporal slaving in a packet data transmission network comprising a local reception clock, each data packet comprising a time label, the said device comprising means of temporary storage, intended to receive the packets received from the said network and having a storage capacity able to record data received for a predetermined time (IPDV) dependent on the characteristics of the network,

- the said device comprising
 - means for regenerating a local reception clock as a function of the time label of the incoming packets,
 - means for reading the data in the means of temporary storage at an instant dependent on the said predetermined time (IPDV) and on the regenerated local reception clock.

Wherein the means for regenerating a local reception clock comprise

- a differentiator making the difference between the time label and the regenerated local reception clock,

- means for accumulating said difference between the time labels of the incoming data packets and the local reception clock during a period of time and
- decision means for comparing the said summing and the local clock and modifying the regenerated local reception clock according to said comparison.

Cloutier does not modify the local reception clock as claimed in Claim

1. Additionally, Cloutier neither discloses nor suggests:

- a differentiator making the difference between the time label and the regenerated local reception clock,
- means for accumulating said difference between the time labels of the incoming data packets and the local reception clock during a period of time and
- decision means for comparing the said summing and the local clock and modifying the regenerated local reception clock according to said comparison.

For the reasons given above, Cloutier neither discloses nor suggests the features of Claim 1. Similarly, Claim 8 (which is a method claim version of Claim 1) is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited prior art. Likewise, dependent Claims 5 and 6 are patentable, as such claims depend on allowable Claim 1.

II. 35 U.S.C. 103(a) Rejection of Claims 2 and 4

The Examiner rejected Claims 2 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of Cloutier in view of Akiyama (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0152213A1). Applicants disagree with the Examiner for the following reasons:

Applicants assert that Claims 2 and 4 are patentable as such claims depend on allowable Claim 1. In such, Applicants assert that Claims 2 and 4 are allowable.

III. 35 U.S.C. 103(a) Rejection of Claim 7

The Examiner rejected Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of Cloutier in view of Skelly (U.S. Patent 6,661,810B1). Applicants disagree with the Examiner for the following reasons:

Applicants assert that Claim 7 is patentable as such claims depend on allowable Claim 1. In such, Applicants assert that Claim 7 is allowable.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's objections and rejections, it is believed that this patent application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6809, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

Respectfully submitted,
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